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NEWS RELEASE

April 25, 2006

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UTAH CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION REACHES HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE 1998

Sevier County Produces Nearly 10 Percent State Total

Recent figures compiled by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining show crude oil production for 2005 at its highest level since 1998 at more than 16,651,000 barrels. Production in 1998 was just over 19,218,000 barrels.

"While Duchesne County accounted for more than six-and-a-half million barrels of that production and is the top producing county for the state, it's interesting to note that nearly 10 percent of the state's production now comes from Sevier County," said Associate Director for Oil and Gas Gil Hunt. "That's a new twist because prior to 2004 there was absolutely no production from Sevier County."

The change in Sevier County is attributed to an important oil discovery by Wolverine Gas and Oil Company and subsequent development of Wolverine's Covenant field. Wolverine ranked 7th in statewide production in 2005 and now operates eight producing wells, all in Sevier County.

The top producing oil well in the state for 2005 is Wolverine's Kings Meadow Ranches 17-1 well. It produced 326,676 barrels of oil. Utah currently has nearly 2,388 producing oil wells.

Complete 2005 production volumes for oil and gas are now available online at www.ogm.utah.gov.

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